Mail Stop AF

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
Intellectual Property Causes
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

AP IP

Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 Expedited Procedure Requested

Examining Group. <u>2621</u> Attorney Docket No. <u>P22032</u>

In re application of: M. TAKAI et al.

Application No.

10/084,177

: February 28, 2002

Group Art Unit: 2621

Examiner: H. AKHAVANNIK

For

Filed

: NEXT PROCESS-DETERMINING METHOD, INSPECTING METHOD AND

INSPECTING APPARATUS

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

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Transmitted herewith is an Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 in the above-captioned application.

Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

A Request for Extension of Time.

X No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
	-		Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 10	*20	0	x25=	\$	x 50=	\$0.00
Indep. Claims: 3	**3	0	x100=	\$	x200=	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+180=	\$	+360=	\$0.00
Extension Fees for Month(s)				\$		\$0.00
-			Total:	\$	Total:	\$0.00

*	lf	less	than	20,	write	20
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** If less than 3, write 3

Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$_____.

N/A A check in the amount of \$ to cover the *filing/extension* fee is included.

X The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

X Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

X Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3)).

Bruce H. Bernstein Reg. No. 29,027

Steven Wegman Reg. No. 31,438 P22032.A06 (MX) 1.8 2005 ES IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mitsuru TAKAl et al.

Group Art Unit: 2621

Appln. No. : 10/084,177

Examiner: Hadi AKHAVANNIK

Filed: February 28, 2002

Confirmation No.: 4788

For

: NEXT PROCESS-DETERMINING METHOD, INSPECTING METHOD

AND INSPECTING APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action of February 22, 2006, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on May 22, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Final Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this Response.